



Co-teaching: Collaborating to Improve Inclusive Practices

LEA Training and Technical Assistance Opportunity

February 2014

Introduction

During the 2013-2014 School Year and into the 2014-2015 School Year, the OSSE Division of Specialized Education, in partnership with the Dr. Wendy Murawski of 2 Teach LLC, will host a professional development opportunity for LEAs on co-teaching. This opportunity will focus on identifying key characteristics, skills, and behaviors needed for effective co-teaching and co-planning. The format of this training will consist of a two-day kick-off institute and a one-day follow-up training, both held at OSSE, followed by a virtual meeting to solidify co-teaching techniques among participants.

During the 2014-2015 School Year, co-teaching pairs will be observed on at least three occasions and receive feedback. The co-teaching pairs will be expected to model their techniques for other LEAs interested in adopting a co-teaching model. Academic progress of students in the co-taught setting will be reviewed to examine the impact of the model in comparison to similar classrooms taught in a more traditional manner.

The kick-off institute is designed to build participants' understanding of different co-teaching models and support the development of co-planned lessons. Participants are expected to use the co-teaching models and co-planning lesson strategies introduced in this series. The follow-up sessions will provide co-teaching pairs with opportunities to share best practices, offer support in effective use of strategies,

Goals

- Demonstrate through discussion, examples, and lesson plans, a clear understanding of the different co-teaching models, as well as when it is most effective to use each approach.
 - Create co-planned lessons that use time efficiently and model best practices in lesson planning through Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and differentiation.
 - Describe the key elements of co-teaching and articulate how observers would be able to see their co-planning, co-instruction, and co-assessment through specific activities.
 - Identify the benefits to student improvement in academics, behavior, social skills and/or self-esteem and state how educators are specifically addressing student needs through co-teaching efforts.
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Requirements

Co-Teaching Partnerships

OSSE is looking for 15 co-teaching pairs, consisting of one special education teacher and one general education teacher. Additionally, each partnership must have the support of the LEA or school administration. For this reason, Participating LEAs/schools are **required** to send one LEA Administrator to the two-day kick off institute.

LEA Commitments

Participating LEAs must commit to the following required project activities:

- Attendance at the two-day kick-off event on March 4-5, 2014 at OSSE
- Attendance at the all day follow-up training on May 6, 2014 at OSSE
- Participation in a virtual meeting in September, 2014 (date TBD)
- Agreement to be observed on at least three occasions during the 2014-2015 School Year. Observations will be coordinated with LEA administration.
- Agreement to assess impact through comparison of data to a traditional classroom in the LEA.
- Commitment to be a demonstration site to other LEAs across the District beginning in the 2014-15 school year.

Cost

This project is fully funded by OSSE. There is no cost to LEAs; however, it is expected that all participating LEAs commit the necessary time, resources, and energy to help make this project successful.

Next Steps

Each interested LEA must complete the attached materials and submit them by the deadline of close of business February 26, 2014 to be considered for this project. Decisions will be made by close of business February 27, 2014.

Pre-Training Knowledge Assessment

Members of your co-teaching partnership must take a brief survey, asking about their current level of knowledge with regard to co-teaching, co-planning, and co-assessing. The link to the survey will be sent upon receipt of your LEA's letter of interest.

Each LEA will designate a point of contact from their LEA team who will serve as the liaison with OSSE for this training series.

LEA Letter of Intent

LEA: _____

Campus (if applicable): _____

Please designate a point of contact from your LEA Team who will serve as the liaison with OSSE for this training series. POC: _____

Participating Staff

LEA Administrator

Name: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Grades Served: _____

Special Education Teacher

Name: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Grades Served: _____

General Education Teacher

Name: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Grades Served: _____

*Other Co-teaching Pairs, if Applicable**

Special Education Teacher

Name: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Grades Served: _____

General Education Teacher

Name: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Grades Served: _____

* OSSE will consider additional pairs from the LEA if space is available.

Letter of Commitment from LEA Leader:

I, _____ will ensure that my LEA meet all of the requirements including:

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Applications must be received before close of business Wednesday, February 26, 2014.

**Please submit Letters of Interest and Commitment via email to: osse.tta@dc.gov with subject line:
Letter of Interest and Commitment submission, Co-teaching Training Series.**



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